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Durham Appearance Commission

MEMO

Date: **April 16, 2012**

To: **Members of the Durham City Council**

From: **Todd Parrott, Chair, Durham City County Appearance Commission**

Subject: **2011 Durham City County Appearance Commission Annual Report**

It is my pleasure to present to you the Durham City-County Appearance Commission's Annual Report for 2011. This has been a year of many changes to the Commission. This year the annual Golden Leaf Awards for Community Appearance ceremony was canceled; however the Commission hopes to work with our partners, Keep Durham Beautiful and the Environmental Affairs Board to restore this program in the next year. The Commission will continue to work cooperatively with the Durham Appearance Advocacy Group on efforts to enhance our community's appearance.

We have been gratified to have the opportunity to review and provide input on a variety of municipal projects including schools, infrastructure, parks, and community buildings. We continue to update our review process to keep a streamlined and thought provoking review experience for the applicants. We feel that all of these changes will help us to give meaningful input on such projects, since civic buildings and public projects are the best examples of a community's commitment to its appearance, and thus the perceptions that are created.

As we enter our eleventh year, we have faced the challenge of maintaining full membership in the Commission. Full membership is important to us in order to assure that the Commission's work, including the Golden Leaf Awards and tasks assigned to the Project Review Committee can be adequately addressed.

Another ongoing challenge is our annual drive for private contributions to fund our awards program. We understand the financial constraints the City and County continue to face. We are grateful for the financial support we have received from both entities, and hope that it can continue. We are confident that the appearance and design of our community are priorities for us all. Thank you for your continuing support.